



**Billing Code 4333–15**

**DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR**

**Fish and Wildlife Service**

**[FWS–R6–ES–2018–N180; FXES11130600000–189–FF06E00000]**

**Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Initiation of 5-Year Status**

**Reviews of 11 Species in the Mountain-Prairie Region**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of initiation of reviews; request for information.

**SUMMARY:** We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are initiating 5-year status reviews under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (Act), of six animal and five plant species. A 5-year status review is based on the best scientific and commercial data available at the time of the review; therefore, we are requesting submission of any new information on these species that has become available since the last review of the species.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration in our reviews, we are requesting submission of new information no later than [INSERT DATE 60 DAYS AFTER THE DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE *FEDERAL REGISTER*]. However, we will continue to accept new information about any listed species at any time.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information on a particular species, contact the appropriate person or office listed in the table in the

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section. Individuals who are hearing impaired

or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

## **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

### **Why Do We Conduct 5-year Status Reviews?**

Under the Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), we maintain Lists of Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants (which we collectively refer to as the List) in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) at 50 CFR 17.11 (for animals) and 17.12 (for plants). Section 4(c)(2)(A) of the Act requires us to review each listed species' status at least once every 5 years. Our regulations at 50 CFR 424.21 require that we publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing those species under active review. For additional information about 5-year status reviews, go to <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/what-we-do/recovery-overview.html>, scroll down to “Learn More about 5-Year Status Reviews,” and click on our factsheet.

### **What Information Do We Consider in Our Review?**

A 5-year status review considers all new information available at the time of the review. In conducting these reviews, we consider the best scientific and commercial data that have become available since the listing determination or most recent status review, such as:

(A) Species biology, including but not limited to population trends, distribution, abundance, demographics, and genetics;

(B) Habitat conditions, including but not limited to amount, distribution, and

suitability;

(C) Conservation measures that have been implemented that benefit the species;

(D) Threat status and trends in relation to the five listing factors (as defined in section 4(a)(1) of the Act); and

(E) Other new information, data, or corrections, including but not limited to taxonomic or nomenclatural changes, identification of erroneous information contained in the List, and improved analytical methods.

Any new information will be considered during the 5-year status review and will also be useful in evaluating the ongoing recovery programs for the species.

## Which Species Are Under Review?

This notice announces our active review of the eleven species listed in the tables below.

ANIMALS						
Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status	Historical Range	Final listing rule (Federal Register citation and publication date)	Contact Person, Phone, Email	Contact Person's U.S. Mail Address
Black-footed ferret	<i>Mustela nigripes</i>	Endangered	Arizona, Colorado, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, North Dakota, South Dakota, Texas, Utah, Wyoming, U.S.A.; Canada; Mexico	32 FR 4001; 03/11/1967	John Hughes, Wildlife Biologist, 970-897-2730 x229; john_hughes@fws.gov	National Black-footed Ferret Conservation Center, P.O. Box 190, Wellington, CO 80459
Gunnison sage-grouse	<i>Centrocercus minimus</i>	Threatened	Colorado, Utah, U.S.A.	79 FR 69191; 11/20/2014	Ann Timberman, Colorado Field Office, 970-628-7181; ann_timberman@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Western Colorado Field Office, 445 W. Gunnison Ave., #240, Grand Junction, CO 81501-5711
Preble's meadow jumping mouse	<i>Zapus hudsonius preblei</i>	Threatened	Colorado, Wyoming, U.S.A.	73 FR 39790; 07/10/2008	Drue DeBerry, CO/NE Project Leader, 303-236-4774; drue_deberry@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Colorado Field Office, P.O. Box 25486-DFC, Denver, CO 80225
Neosho madtom	<i>Noturus placidus</i>	Threatened	Kansas, Missouri, Oklahoma, U.S.A.	55 FR 21148; 5/22/1990	Jason Luginbill, Project Leader, 785-539-3474; jason_luginbill@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Kansas Field Office, 2609 Anderson Ave., Manhattan, KS 66502
Utah prairie dog	<i>Cynomys parvidens</i>	Threatened	Utah, U.S.A.	76 FR 36053; 6/21/2011	Larry Crist, Project Leader, 801-975-3330; larry_crist@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Utah Field Office, 2369 W. Orton Circle, #50, West Valley City, UT 84119

Wyoming toad	<i>Bufo hemiophrys baxteri</i>	Endangered	Wyoming, U.S.A.	49 FR 1992; 1/17/1984	Tyler Abbott, Project Leader, 307-772-2374; tyler_abbott@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Wyoming Field Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, #308A, Cheyenne, WY 82009
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PLANTS						
Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status	Historical Range	Final listing rule (Federal Register citation and publication date)	Contact Person, Phone, Email	Contact Person's U.S. Mail Address
Parachute beardtongue	<i>Penstemon debilis</i>	Threatened	Colorado, U.S.A.	76 FR 45054; 07/27/2011	Ann Timberman, Colorado Field Office, 970-628-7181; ann_timberman@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Western Colorado Field Office, 445 W. Gunnison Ave., #240, Grand Junction, CO 81501-5711
Blowout penstemon	<i>Penstemon haydenii</i>	Endangered	Nebraska, Wyoming, U.S.A.	52 FR 32926; 9/1/1987	Eliza Hines, Nebraska Field Office, 308-382-6468; eliza_hines@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Nebraska Field Office, 9325 S. Alda Road, Wood River, NE 68883
Clay phacelia	<i>Phacelia argillacea</i>	Endangered	Utah, U.S.A.	43 FR 44810; 9/28/1978	Larry Crist, Project Leader, 801-975-3330; larry_crist@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Utah Field Office, 2369 W. Orton Circle, #50, West Valley City, UT 84119
Last chance townsendia	<i>Townsendia aprica</i>	Threatened	Utah, U.S.A.	50 FR 33734; 8/21/1985	Larry Crist, Project Leader, 801-975-3330; larry_crist@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Utah Field Office, 2369 W. Orton Circle, #50, West Valley City, UT 84119
Desert yellowhead	<i>Yermo xanthocephalus</i>	Threatened	Wyoming, U.S.A.	67 FR 11442; 3/14/2002	Tyler Abbott, Project Leader, 307-772-2374; tyler_abbott@fws.gov	Ecological Services, Wyoming Field Office, 5353 Yellowstone Road, #308A, Cheyenne, WY 82009

## **Request for New Information**

To ensure that a 5-year status review is complete and based on the best available scientific and commercial information, we request new information from all sources. See “**What Information Do We Consider in Our Review?**” for specific criteria. If you submit information, please support it with documentation such as maps, bibliographic references, methods used to gather and analyze the data, and/or copies of any pertinent publications, reports, or letters by knowledgeable sources.

## **How Do I Ask Questions or Provide Information?**

If you wish to provide information for any species listed above, please submit your comments and materials to the appropriate contact in the table above. You may also direct questions to those contacts. Individuals who are hearing impaired or speech impaired may call the Federal Relay Service at 800–877–8339 for TTY assistance.

## **Public Availability of Submissions**

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the offices where the comments are submitted.

### **Contents of Public Comments**

Please make your comments as specific as possible. Please confine your comments to issues for which we seek comments in this notice, and explain the basis for your comments. Include sufficient information with your comments to allow us to authenticate any scientific or commercial data you include.

The comments and recommendations that will be most useful and likely to be relevant to agency decisions are: (1) Those supported by quantitative information or studies; and (2) Those that include citations to, and analyses of, the applicable laws and regulations.

### **Completed and Active Reviews**

A list of all completed and currently active 5-year status reviews addressing species for which the Mountain-Prairie Region of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has lead responsibility is available at <http://www.fws.gov/endangered/>.

**Authority**

This document is published under the authority of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

**Dated: February 9, 2018**

**Matt Hogan,  
*Deputy Regional Director,  
Mountain-Prairie Region.***

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